FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NOV. 13, 2008

PANNELL SWIM SHOP NAMED TITLE SPONSOR OF STATE SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Pannell Swim Shop of Lexington has signed an agreement to serve as title sponsor of the KHSAA State Swimming & Diving Championships Commissioner Brigid DeVries has announced. The agreement is for three years beginning with the 2009 event and continuing through 2011. In addition, Commissioner DeVries announced the site for the event for the same years which will be held at the University of Louisville’s Wright Natatorium, which served as host to the 2008 event.

The title sponsorship by Pannell also includes two academic scholarships (one boy and one girl) open to any senior participant in the State Meet. The event shall officially be referenced as the Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA State Swimming & Diving Championships.

“We are extremely pleased that Pannell Swim Shop has come on board to sponsor our State Swimming & Diving Championships,” DeVries said. “Rick Pannell and his staff have long been the frontrunners in the state in supporting our swimming and diving programs at all levels which makes this a natural fit. We hope this is the beginning of a long term relationship between Pannell Swim Shop and the KHSAA.”

“Pannell Swim Shop is proud to be the new title sponsor for the KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships,” said Pannell Swim Shop Owner and President Rick Pannell. “I have been a part of the swimming community in the state dating back to my youth in swim leagues in Greenville and Owensboro. Pannell Swim Shop believes that the sport of swimming and diving builds great character and promoted a healthy lifestyle for our youth. We are also proud of the scholarship open to any senior participating in the meet. I have always believed that academics should be a top priority in the lives of our young student athletes and with these scholarships, we hope to reward two outstanding young people for their accomplishments,” Pannell concluded.

Pannell Swim Shop joins the following other KHSAA title sponsors: Leachman Buick/Pontiac/GMC (boys’ and girls’ golf), Houchens Industries (girls’ basketball), National City (boys’ basketball) Forcht Bank (baseball).

Commissioner DeVries also announced another first for the sport of swimming & diving with live video streaming to be available of this year’s event in partnership with iHigh.com.

“We are excited about the live video streaming of the Pannell Swim Shop/KHSAA State Swimming and Diving Championships as well,” DeVries said. “Year in and year out the State Swim Meet is a sold-out event, so hopefully this will help those that are unable to attend be a part of the event.”

STATE CROSS COUNTRY THIS WEEKEND

The 2008 KHSAA State Cross Country Championships are scheduled for this Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. Action begins with the Boys’ Class A race at 9:30 and concludes with the Girls’ Class 3A race at 2:15 p.m.

Gates open at 8 a.m. for fans. General admission tickets will be priced at $7 each with those six and under admitted free of charge. Fans should use the main Horse Park entrance and follow the signs. Parking will be at
the back of the Horse Park Campground. A golf cart shuttle will be provided for those that need assistance to the race area.

Following is the race schedule:
Boys’ Class 1A – 9:30 a.m.
Girls’ Class 1A – 10:15 a.m. (awards for Class 1A at the conclusion of the girls’ race)
Boys’ Class 2A – 11:30 a.m.
Girls’ Class 2A – 12:15 p.m. (awards for Class 2A at the conclusion of the girls’ race)
Boys’ Class 3A – 1:30 p.m.
Girls’ Class 3A – 2:15 p.m. (awards for Class 3A at the conclusion of the girls’ race)

Entries and Results
www.khsaa.org/cross_country/state.html

Please see KHSAA staff members Brent Miller, Marilyn Mitchell, Mike Barren or Julian Tackett on site for any assistance.

FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS SET
Round one of the Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl State Football Playoffs is set for this weekend. Schedules and scores may be viewed on the Rhed’s/KHSAA Scoreboard and at www.khsaa.org/football. For next week’s second round, the team with the high seed will be the home team.

The Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl is set for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13 at Papa John’s Cardinal Stadium in Louisville. Following is a schedule of the six championship games:

Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl – Papa John’s Cardinal Stadium, Louisville
Friday, Dec. 12
Class 1A Championship, 11 a.m.
Class 3A Championship, 3 p.m.
Class 5A Championship, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Class 2A Championship, 11 a.m.
Class 4A Championship, 3 p.m.
Class 6A Championship, 7 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS
Nov. 15 State Cross Country Championships, Ky. Horse Park, Lexington
Nov. 17-18 KHSAA Board of Control Meeting, Lexington
Nov. 21-22 State Football Playoffs Week #2, Various Sites
Nov. 28-29 State Football Playoffs Week #3, Various Sites
Dec. 5-6 State Football Playoffs Semi-finals, Various Sites
Dec. 12-13 Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl State Football Finals, Papa John’s Cardinal Stadium, Louisville
Dec. 18 KHSAA Special Board of Control Meeting, Lexington

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About the Kentucky High School Athletic Association
The Kentucky High School Athletic Association was organized in 1917 and is the agency designated by the Kentucky Department of Education to manage high school athletics in the Commonwealth. The Association is a voluntary nonprofit 501 3(c) organization made up of 279 member schools both public and private. The KHSAA sanctions state championships in 19 sports, licenses and trains over 3,900 officials, provides catastrophic
insurance for its member school student athletes as well as overseeing coaching education and medical symposium programs.